



Alameda, Contra Costa, Fresno, Kern, Kings, Los Angeles, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare
Partners: Amtrak, Caltrans Division of Rail, BNSF Railway Company, Union Pacific Railroad

REPRESENTING COUNTIES ALONG THE SAN JOAQUIN RAIL CORRIDOR

San Joaquin Valley Rail Committee (SJVRC) Quarterly Meeting

Rabobank Arena, Theatre and Convention Center

Bakersfield, California

Minutes

Friday, November 30, 2012

- I. Call To Order Vice Chairman David Rogers called the meeting to order at 1:20pm.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance led by Vice Chair David Rogers
- III. Welcoming Remarks Mayor Hall of the City of Bakersfield spoke with welcoming remarks.
- IV. Roll Call by SJVRC, Angelo Lamas; no quorum (11 attendees); Members present in Bakersfield, CA: Vice Chairman David Rogers, Tom Bailey, Chairman of Fresno COG Rail, Clark Thompson, Fresno COG, Mayor Harvey Hall, City of Bakersfield (Kern County), Hank Fung, Los Angeles County, Bruce Heard, Los Angeles County, Dylan Stone, Madera County, Angelo Lamas, Merced County, Ed Coviello, City of Elk Grove (Sacramento County), Brian Schmidt, San Joaquin County.

Absent: Thomas Blalock, Alameda County, Michael Snyder, Alameda County, Supervisor Federal Glover, Contra Costa County, Howard Abelson, Contra Costa County, Supervisor Mary Piepho, Contra Costa County, Supervisor Susan Anderson, Fresno County, Supervisor Karen Goh, Kern County, Supervisor Zach Scrivner, Kern County, Robert "Bob" Snoddy, Kern County, Supervisor Richard Valle, Kings County, Supervisor Tony Barba, Kings County, Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Los Angeles County, Supervisor Max Rodriguez, Madera County, Supervisor Lee Stetson, Mariposa County, Supervisor John Pedrozo, Merced County, Supervisor Hubert "Hub" Walsh, Merced County, Council Member Sarah Johnson, Sacramento County, Supervisor Leroy Ornellas, San Joaquin County, Supervisor Ken Vogel, San Joaquin County, Stacey Mortensen, San Joaquin County, Chairman Vito Chiesa, Stanislaus County, Matt Machado, Stanislaus County, Supervisor Jim DeMartini, Stanislaus County, Supervisor Mike Ennis, Tulare County, Ty Holscher, Tulare County, Supervisor Phillip Cox, Tulare County.

- V. Introduction by SJVRC Vice Chair, David Rogers
- VI. Action Items

Vote on August 30, 2012 minutes. Quorum not met; no action taken. Tabled until next meeting.

VII. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items Only by SJVRC Vice Chair, David Rogers –

No Comment Cards received.

VIII. SJVRC Subcommittee Reports

Dan Leavitt, San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority Subcommittee.

Mr. Leavitt presented information regarding the passage of AB 1779 and the status of the San Joaquin Valley JPA formation.

Member of the Public, Mike Barnbaum addressed the committee.

IX. Guest Speakers

a) *Rob Ball, from Kern County, presented the Kern COG's Commuter Rail Feasibility.*

Mr. Ball described the Commuter Rail Feasibility Study and how this is new to Kern COG's rail plan. He explained that the Commuter Rail is feasible in the region.

b) *Steve Walker, Kern COG, Operation Lifesaver (OLS) Projects Overview.*

Mr. Walker gave an overview of the national OLS program, which began in 1972.

Trespassing incidents and reports from the Federal Rail Administration (FRA) are posted on the FRA's website. The 2011 Central Valley Grade Crossing and Trespassing Incidents Statistics will be provided at the next meeting.

Vice-Chairman David Rogers requested that this report should be provided at the next meeting.

Mr. Angelo Lamas, Merced County commented on OLS visits to schools, and recognized prior OLS presentations by Bob Alexander.

c) *Royce Gotcher, Caltrans Division of Rail, San Joaquin Corridor Projects Overview*

Mr. Gotcher presented an update for San Joaquin Corridor projects. Capital Projects within the San Joaquin Corridor: Oakley to Port Chicago Double Track – Segment 3, Stockton to Escalon Double Track – segment 2, UPRR Capitalized Maintenance, BNSF Capitalized Maintenance and Modeling to provide continued improvements.

d) *Bill Bronte, Caltrans Division of Rail presented the California State Rail Plan Overview/Briefing.*

Mr. Bronte gave an overview of the California State Rail Plan (CSRP) and how the CSRP is integrated as a development tool for transportation systems. The CSRP will incorporate the state's high-speed rail system.

X. Reports

a) *Bill Bronte, Caltrans Division of Rail, California Department of Transportation/ State Updates*

Mr. Bronte summarized ridership/revenue as of September 2012. Ridership was up in the 3rd quarter, On Time Performance (OTP) was at 86.6% and Total Ridership on the corridor is up by 12.6% from last year, a trend that has continued for 5 years, once again broke ridership & revenue records.

b) *Greg Santos, Amtrak, Amtrak California/ Train Operations*

Mr. Santos provided the status of the recent activity on the tracks and the accidents that effected Amtrak equipment & service.

c) *Alex Khalfin, Amtrak Government Affairs / Federal Updates*

Mr. Khalfin stated there was no significant change in the Amtrak budget. He explained that Congress passed a 6 month continued resolution that extended the level of funding until March 2013. He announced the hire of a new general manager, Tom Quickly, who will be based out of Oakland and he will start working as of Dec. 10, 2012.

d) *David Nisely, Amtrak Operation, Partners Performance Actions Team (PPAT)*

Mr. Nisley presented reports on Ridership, Revenue and CSI scores.

e) *Barbara Ruditis, Amtrak Bus Operations, Amtrak Thruway Bus Operation/ Fall Schedule Changes*

Ms. Ruditis presented updates to the schedule for 2013. She noted that Route 19 – Indio & Bakersfield will now operate 10 minutes earlier, coming out of Cabazon stop. Ms. Ruditis explained that the E-ticketing program was launched and 350 mobile devices are up and running.

Mr. Hank Fung, Los Angeles County, commented that when he has contacted Amtrak Rewards, they were unaware that e-tickets were now issued for the bus and no paper tickets were necessary to be generated. He just requested that they be trained that e-tickets work for many bus lines in California, in addition to the rail.

XI. Member Comments and Suggestions for Future Agenda Items

a) *Announcements*

Vice Chairman David Rogers shared status of afternoon travel. He explained that Highway 99 in Madera has been closed due to a ruptured gas line by PG&E. The UP line is shut down as well, due to an accident.

b) *Remarks by the Vice-Chairman David Rogers*

Wish everyone a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year. No official business has been conducted but will be conducted at the next meeting in February.

XII. Action Items:

1) Review & Approve meeting minutes for the following meetings:

- a. August 30, 2012
- b. November 30, 2012

2) Provide Federal Rail Administration (FRA) report of trespassing incidents.

XIII. Adjournment at 3:15pm